SO, LISTEN, WE DON'T NEED ANY LETTERS ABOUT HOW I'M FIGHTING THE SKRULLS IN CENTRAL PARK, WHICH DOESN'T HAPPEN UNTIL ISSUE #7 & 8 OF SECRET INVASION--
(BY THE WAY, SPOILER ALERT)
--EVEN THOUGH THIS WHOLE JACKPOT STORY HAPPENS AT THE SAME TIME AS ISSUE #3.
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?!
KEERAK
QUIET, YOU.
THE DB PUBLISHED A STORY ABOUT JACKPOT THAT SAID SOME NASTY THINGS, LIKE THE FACT THAT SHE WAS INTENTIONALLY HARASSING WALTER DECLUN, SO SHE WENT TO THE DB'S OFFICES--
JACKPOT?! DB?! WHAT ARE THESE THINGS?!
BUY THE LAST TWO ISSUES IF YOU'RE THAT CONFUSED!
WHAT--?!
KRAKOOM
ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW IS THAT JACKPOT IS NOW THE ONLY THING STANDING BETWEEN MY FRIENDS AND A SUPER-SKRULL WITH THE POWERS OF THE SINISTER SIX!
SIGH
I CAN'T EXPLAIN THE WHOLE STORY! WE ONLY HAVE FOUR PANELS LEFT ON THIS PAGE!
I ALMOST FORGOT!
ANYWAY, I GOTTA GET BACK TO HELPING SAVE THE WORLD.
I'LL BE BACK IN 17 PAGES TO WRAP THIS ALL UP!
PLEASE SHUT UP.
JACKPOT'S ALSO GOT TO DEAL WITH MY OLD PAL MENACE.

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN IN: PART THREE OF...

BRAND NEW SECRET INVASION

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MENACE IS GOING TO KILL ME!
IF I'VE GOT TO PLAY DIRTY TO SURVIVE...
I'LL PLAY DIRTY!
WHOOMP
IT'S THAT OR FALL THIRTY STORIES DOWN!
MAYBE IF I CAN MESS UP HIS MASK? BLIND HIM FOR A MOMENT--
I MIGHT EVEN FIND OUT WHO HE REALLY IS!
AH-HA! ONE GOOD YANK AND WE'LL SEE WHAT YOU LOOK LIKE UNDER THAT MASK!

STUPID THING'S ON *REALLY* TIGHT!
YOU USING SUPER-GLUE UNDER THAT THING?
OR IS THAT REALLY YOUR FA--
AAHHHH!
AIN'T GETTING RID OF ME THAT EASY!
WHAT?! NOOOO!
ENOUGH OF YOU!
Elect Bill Hollis
KERSMASH
"I KNOW *ONE* OF YOU IS SPIDER-MAN!"

SEVERAL BLOCKS AWAY...
INSIDE JOE ROBERTSON'S SPEEDING CAR.
TELL ME NOW WHICH IT IS, OR I KILL YOU ALL!
I'VE SEEN JOE AND SPIDER-MAN IN THE SAME ROOM BEFORE, SO IT CAN'T BE JOE.
BETTY, THIS ISN'T THE TIME TO BE A REPORTER!
AND DEXTER'S THE WRONG BUILD.
ATTITUDE.
AGE...
HEY!
WHICH REALLY JUST LEAVES YOU, VIN!
I AM NOT SPIDER-MAN!
I KNOW HOW THAT SICK FREAK WORKS, SETTING UP PEOPLE ALL OVER THE CITY--IT'S MORE LIKELY YOU'RE SPIDER-MAN THAN ME!
IS THAT SO?
AAAHHHH!
BETTY!

HELLO, SPIDER-MAN.
DO I LOOK LIKE A SPIDER-MAN TO YOU?!
BETTY!
GET OUT OF HERE, JOE! GO!
AAAHHHH!
SCREEEEECH
YOU UNHAND THAT WOMAN, NOW! SHE IS MY EMPLOYEE, NOT YOUR PLAYTHING!
AAHHHH!
DEXTER! GET BACK IN THE CAR!
I MEAN IT! DROP HER THIS INSTANT!
AFTER I PULL SPIDER-MAN'S ARMS AND LEGS OFF, I WILL DO THE SAME TO YOU!
YOU KNOW WHAT BOTHERS ME MORE THAN ANYTHING IN LIFE?
UNPROFESSIONALISM!
AND YOU, SIR, ARE BEING UNPROFESSIONAL IN THE EXTREME!

WHAT EVIDENCE DO YOU HAVE THAT THIS WOMAN MASQUERADES AS SPIDER-MAN?
I SMELL SPIDER-MAN ON ALL OF YOU!
YOU SMELL SPIDER-MAN?
I--
AROUND HERE, WE LIKE TO BE DAMN SURE WE'VE GOT THE RIGHT PERSON BEFORE WE START DISMEMBERING THEM!
YOU DON'T--
FINE.
SO KILL HER.
WHAT?!
WHAT?!
YOU TELL YOUR SUPERIORS SPIDER-MAN IS DEAD!
AND THEN, WHEN SPIDER-MAN SHOWS UP AGAIN, THEN WHAT WILL YOU DO?!
I SUPPOSE I...
LAND!
THIS!
THING!
NOW!

GET OFF!
YOU'RE GOING TO MAKE US CRASH!
THWAK
MENACE! BUT HOW--
DEXTER, RUN!
MMMMM
BOOM
YOU'RE NOT REALLY SPIDER-MAN, ARE YOU?
NO!
THANK GOODNESS.
THAT WAS GOING TO RAISE SO VERY MANY UNCOMFORTABLE QUESTIONS.

OHHHHHH...
OW.
OH... WOW.
HEY... YOU GUYS OKAY?
YEAH. I...THINK SO.

YOU WERE FIGHTING SOME-ONE--WASN'T THAT THE GUY THAT *KILLED* COUNCILWOMAN PARFREY?*
YEAH... YEAH IT WAS.
SO... WHERE'D HE GO?
*AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #551, FOLKS!
"I DON'T SEE HOW HE COULD HAVE SURVIVED."
LUCKY... TO BE *ALIVE*...
GOT LUCKY...
WE HAD A SCARY MOMENT OR TWO, BUT AT LEAST THE BIG MONSTER'S DEAD, HUH?
I'LL JUST CALL S.H.I.E.L.D. AND--
GUYS?
UM... *GUYS*?
WHERE ARE YOU--?
OHHHHH, I BET I KNOW WHAT HAPPENS NEXT.

NOW!
EVERY!
BODY!
DIIIIIEEEESS!
He's right behind me, isn't he...?
I DON'T IT... HE ACTUALLY LOOKS ANGRIER THAN BEFORE.

I WISH I'D PAID ATTENTION TO THE BIT OF THE INITIATIVE TRAINING MANUAL ABOUT [redacted] INSTEAD OF JUST SKIMMING--
KEERUNCH
DANG. HE FINALLY DID IT.
HE KILLED MY CAR.
COME ON, MISTER ROBERTSON! WE CAN'T JUST STAND HERE!
YOU GUYS RUN AHEAD! I'LL TRY AND SLOW IT DOWN!

OKAY, SO HOW THE HECK AM I GOING TO SLOW IT DOWN?!
HRRRRNNGGRAA!
NO GOOD!
AAAAHHHH!
SPLOSH
OOOF!
Flannigan's
Fish Market
& Decium Preserves

LOOKS LIKE WE CAN GET OUT THE BACK WAY.
HURRY!
WHEN TODAY HAVE I NOT BEEN HURRYING?!
DIIIIIIEEE!
CHARGING AT ME RHINO-STYLE?
THEN I'LL JUMP OVE■ YOU SPIDER-MA■ STYLE! HAHA!
KER-SMASH

AAHHHH!
WHUMP
FISH...
THE ONLY THING TO TRIP THIS FREAK UP IS FISH...
THIS DAY ISN'T GETTING ANY BETTER.
WAIT... FISH...AND ICE.
YEAAAAH. ICE!

COME ON, MONSTER BOY!
ZZZAT
HAHA! INSULATED DOOR!
ZZZAT
CHASE THE PRETTY GIRL!
ZZZAT
WHAT'S THAT?
WARNING
WHOA!
YOU CAN DO BETTER THAN THAT, CAN'T YOU?
ZZZAT
WARNING
DEEP FREEZE
EXPOSED FLESH WILL FREEZE IN UNDER ONE MINUTE!
DO NOT ENTER WITHOUT PROTECTIVE OUTER
OH, THAT'S EVEN BETTER THAN I HOPED--
AAHHHH!

THAT'S RIGHT, FREAK0!
WE'RE GOING TO PLAY IN THE FREEZ--
WHOOPS!
THUD
STUPID BOOTS ON AN ICY FLOOR!
HUURRNK!
THOOM
MMMMARR!
I'VE GOT AN IDEA, BIG GUY.
KICK
WHY DON'T YOU...
GRAAAHHH!
CHILL OUT!
"YOU'RE KIDDING."

A FEW NIGHTS LATER...
YOU DID NOT TELL A SKRULL YOU LOCKED IN THE FREEZER TO "CHILL OUT."
WHAT? I WAS TIRED AND PRETTY BEAT UP AND--
THAT'S SO AMATEUR HOUR.
THAT STILL SO DOES NOT EXCUSE "CHILL OUT."
LIKE YOU'VE NEVER HAD A BAD QUIP.
I'M NOT DENYING A [redacted] CLUNKERS IN MY DAY.
SO, WHAT HAPPENED?
WELL...
"EVERYBODY WORKED TOGETHER."
KLANG
[redacted]
YEAH, AFTER A MINUTE OR TWO.

HEY, I FOUND IT!
THE DB'S APOLOGY FOR BESMIRCHING YOUR NAME.*
*SEE ISSUE #1 -SW
COOL. JUST LIKE THEY PROMISED.
YEP, RIGHT HERE ON THE COMICS PAGE, UNDER LI'L FRANKLIN...
3) Ex supermodel turned soap starlet
5) Colbert's Arctophobia is this fear
6) Registered hero DB hereby issues apology t
8) Mythical flying horse. Also a Project.
11) Color of Grimm's ever-lovin' eyes
14) Initials of former publisher who aim
this paper into the ground
17) NPR puzzle guest and crossword editor: Will
DOWN:
1) Author Jones of Sidekick
2) Slott's favorite flavor of ice cream
4) Fictional news anchor who Rosemann sounds
6) Brennan's new job (abbrev)
8) Bogart is a bionic one
10) Current invading aliens
SEE? [redacted] ACROSS.
GREAT. GLAD TO SEE MY TRIP TO THE DB WASN'T A COMPLETE WASTE OF TIME.
IT'S MORE THAN I EVER GOT FROM THE DAILY BUGLE.
OH, HEY--

DID YA SEE THE COVER?
THE DB
FLANNIGAN STREET FISH MARKET, OWNED BY WALTER DECLUN, SAVED THE DAY FOR DB PUBLISHER DEXTER BENNETT AND STAFF.
DB STAFFERS SAVED BY DECLUN!
HERE, YOU PROBABLY WANT TO GET THIS FRAMED.
WHY DO I TALK TO YOU?
BECAUSE I LIKE RED-HEADS?
I--WHAT DID YOU--?
I ANSWERED THAT QUESTION BACKWARDS.
THWIP
YEAH. Um.
I REALLY OUGHT TO BE GETTING OUT OF HERE.
OKAYBYE!

SEVERAL DAYS LATER...
Since 1962
C'MON, VIN, YOU'RE KIDDING RIGHT?
NO, SERIOUSLY. IN THE LAST TWO DAYS I'VE GONE ON THREE CALLS WHERE LITTLE OLD LADIES CLAIMED THEIR CAT WAS A SKRULL.
I JUST WANT TO GET OUT OF THE CITY FOR A FEW YEARS UNTIL EVERYBODY CALMS DOWN.
I DID THAT, LILY. IT'S NOT AS EASY AS IT SOUNDS.
I SWEAR, EVERY SUMMER IT'S ONE BIG EVENT OR ANOTHER GOING ON AROUND HERE.
OF COURSE, IF I WERE TO LEAVE TOWN, I'M NOT SURE ANYONE WOULD NOTICE.
WHEN'S THE LAST TIME A COFFEE SHOP WAS THIS EMPTY ON A SATURDAY MORNING?
RELAX, HARRY. BUSINESS WILL PICK UP SOON--
PETER!
UM... HI?
WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN?! NOBODY'S SEEN YOU SINCE BEFORE THE WHOLE SKRULL THING STARTED!
I WAS... IN... QUEENS.
YOU KNOW HOW THE TRAINS AND THE PHONES AND THE...
ALL OF THE...
I MEAN... EVERYTHING THAT WOULD LET ME POSSIBLY TALK TO ANY OF YOU...
HAVE BEEN...
WHAT'S THE QUESTION?

SERIOUSLY, MAN. I WAS WORRIED YOU'D GOTTEN *HURT!*
NO, I'M FINE, BUT YOU--WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR HEAD?
THIS? OH, MAN, I DON'T EVEN REMEMB--
APPARANTLY, MR. OSBORN *TRIPPED* OVER HIS *OWN* TWO FEET ON THE SIDEWALK THE DAY *AFTER* THE AVENGERS WON THEIR FIGHT IN CENTRAL PARK.
AH, *WHO CARES* ABOUT A BUMP ON MY HEAD ANYWAY? PETER'S HERE!
THE GANG'S *BACK TOGETHER,* AND WE SHOULD *CELEBRATE!*
COFFEE AND PUMPKIN SQUARES ALL AROUND!
SO...WHAT HAPPENED WITH YOU GUYS?
WELL, PETE, YOU EVER HEAR OF THAT HERO, JACKPOT?

SOMEWHERE IN NEW YORK...
RIIING RIIING RIII- KLIK
HEY THERE TIGER...
(OR TIGRESS AS THE CASE MAY BE)
...I'M NOT IN RIGHT NOW, SOOOO LEAVE A MESSAGE.
bleep
IT'S SARA. PICK UP.
COME ON, I KNOW YOU'RE THERE.
GO AWAY! I'M NOT HERE IF THE ANSWERING MACHINE SAYS I'M NOT!
FINE. SCREEN MY CALL.
I WILL.
I SAW WHAT YOU DID FOR THOSE PEOPLE FROM THE DB... AND...
I'M NOT GETTING OUT OF THIS BATHTUB, NO MATTER HOW LONG YOU PAUSE.
PRAISE OR DAMNATION, ONE OR THE OTHER, SARA!
AND I WANTED TO SAY GOOD JOB.
YOU'VE GOTTEN REALLY GREAT AT THE WHOLE HERO THING LATELY...
I KNOW, HUH?
BUT IF YOU'RE NOT ANSWERING YOUR PHONE I WON'T SAY ANY OF THESE THINGS!
SO NYAAHH!
KEEP IT UP, HERO. THE WORLD NEEDS MORE LIKE YOU.
TALK TO YOU LATER.
JACKPOT'S STORY CONTINUES IN AMAZING SPIDER-MAN ANNUAL #35. ON SALE NEXT WEEK.